

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 23-25 as follows.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original) A process for producing hydrogen from anaerobically digested organic materials comprising the steps of:

placing said materials in a reaction zone; and applying an electric potential across said materials; thereby producing hydrogen and carbon dioxide whereby said electric potential is applied occasionally after periods without application of said electric potential.

Claim 2 (original) A process as in Claim 1 in which said occasional application of said electric potential is timed to occur at a frequency and for a period to maximize the quantity of hydrogen produced per the amount of electricity consumed.

Claim 3 (original) A process as in Claim 1 wherein a portion of said hydrogen is used by an energy conversion means to supply said electric potential.

Claim 4 (original) A process as in Claim 1 in which said occasional application of said electric potential is timed to occur at a frequency and for a period to maximize the quantity of hydrogen produced per the amount of electricity consumed and wherein a portion of said hydrogen is used by an energy conversion means to supply said electric potential.

Claim 5 (original) A process as in Claim 1 in which said electric potential is applied across electrodes.

Claim 6 (original) A process as in Claim 1 in which said electric potential is applied across multiple electrodes.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (original) A process for producing hydrogen from anaerobically digested organic materials comprising the steps of:

placing said materials in a reaction zone; and applying an electric potential across said materials; thereby producing hydrogen and carbon dioxide whereby said electric potential is applied occasionally after periods without application of said electric potential whereby the amount of time required to reduce the amount of said organic materials is substantially reduced compared to the time required without application of said electric potential.

Claim 17 (original) A process for conversion of biomass wastes into useful energy comprising the steps of: application of intermittent voltage for purposes selected from the group including depression of microorganismal activity that produces methane, enhancement of microorganismal activity that produces hydrogen, and creation of an atmosphere within said biomass wastes that is maintained rich in hydrogen.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (original) The process of claim 17 in which an inoculum means selected from the group including human sewage, medium from mature anaerobic digestion of organic materials within an occasionally applied voltage, and medium from anaerobic digestion that is conducted in the presence of increased concentrations of hydrogen wherein said inoculum is added to substantially organic materials selected from the group including manure, crop wastes, and garbage for purposes of increasing the efficiency of conversion of chemical potential energy in organic materials to hydrogen.

Claim 23 (currently amended) A process for producing hydrogen from anaerobically digested organic materials comprising the steps of: placing said materials in a reaction zone; and applying an electric potential across said materials; thereby producing hydrogen and carbon dioxide whereby said electric potential is applied occasionally after periods without application of said electric potential, ~~separating said carbon dioxide and hydrogen.~~

Claim 24 (currently amended) ~~An energy conversion~~ A process for converting organic materials into a gaseous fuel comprising ~~comprised of the steps of anaerobically digesting organic materials in the presence of an electrical potential, intermittently or occasionally applied to produce carbon dioxide and a gaseous fuel selected from the group including comprising hydrogen, methane, and mixtures thereof of hydrogen and methane, and separating said carbon dioxide from said gaseous fuel.~~

Claim 25 (currently amended) The process of claim 17 in which said intermittent voltage is generated by a hydrogen fuel cell.

No fee is believed to be necessary in connection with the filing of this Response.

However, if any additional fee is necessary, applicant hereby authorizes such fee to be charged to
Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

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By:


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